

JUNE 30, 1976

CONTINUITY IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

ANNCR: IN THE MIDST OF A LIVELY FOREIGN POLICY DEBATE IN THIS ELECTION YEAR IN THE UNITED STATES, AND ASSUMING THAT MR. FORD AND MR. CARTER BECOME THE CANDIDATES OF THE REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC PARTIES, VOA NEWS ANALYST JOHN ALBERT SEES MAJOR FACTORS POINTING TO A BASIC CONTINUITY IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY.

VOICE: WITHIN A BRIEF PERIOD, BOTH THE PRESUMPTIVE DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, JIMMY CARTER, AND SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER HAVE MADE MAJOR PRONOUNCEMENTS ON FOREIGN POLICY.

(OPT) AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED IN AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN, MR. CARTER HAS EMPHASIZED (BEFORE THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION IN NEW YORK) WHAT DISTINGUISHES HIS STYLE AND APPROACH TO FOREIGN POLICY FROM THAT OF THE FORD ADMINISTRATION. AND JUST AS EXPECTED, DOCTOR KISSINGER HAS USED HIS APPEARANCE (BEFORE THE INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES IN LONDON) TO DEFEND HIS AND THE FORD ADMINISTRATION'S CONDUCT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TO ANSWER CRITICS FROM LEFT AND RIGHT (END OPT).

WITHOUT MINIMIZING THE CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE VIEWS OF MR. CARTER AND THE FORD ADMINISTRATION, THERE APPEARS A WIDE FIELD OF BASIC PRINCIPLES ON WHICH THERE IS NO DISPUTE, EVEN IF THERE IS A DIFFERENCE OF EMPHASIS. MR. CARTER PLEADS FOR THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES, WESTERN EUROPE AND JAPAN. HE IS COMMITTED TO NATO AND THE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WITH JAPAN. DOCTOR KISSINGER SAYS THESE ALLIANCES AND DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR GLOBAL STABILITY.

BOTH MEN STRESS THE NEED FOR NATO TO REACT TO CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES BROUGHT ABOUT BY STRENGTHENED SOVIET FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE. BOTH ADVOCATE MUTUAL, BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS. MR. CARTER SUPPORTS SIGNIFICANT NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT WHICH SAFEGUARDS NOT ONLY THE BASIC INTERESTS OF BOTH SUPERPOWERS, BUT ALSO THOSE OF AMERICA'S ALLIES. "WE WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE VIGOROUSLY," SAYS DOCTOR KISSINGER, "THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS IN WAYS WHICH PROTECT WESTERN INTERESTS AND REFLECT THE COUNSEL OF OUR ALLIES."

MR. CARTER STRONGLY EMPHASIZES THE NEED FOR THE ALLIES TO ESTABLISH AND PROMOTE BASIC GLOBAL STANDARDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS. MR. KISSINGER SPEAKS OF UNCEASING EFFORTS TO ASSERT TRADITIONAL AMERICAN PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN LIBERTY AND NATIONAL SELF-DETERMINATION.

IT IS TRUE THAT MR. CARTER FAVORS A GENERAL APPROACH TO THE ARAB-ISRAELI PROBLEM RATHER THAN A STEP-BY-STEP SOLUTION. AND HE PUTS PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON A CONSTANT, UNEQUIVOCAL U.S. COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST AS A JEWISH STATE. BUT HE SUPPORTS DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE ARAB NATIONS IN PURSUIT OF UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION 242, RECOGNIZING ISRAEL'S PERMANENT EXISTENCE. WHATEVER THE NUANCES, THERE IS NO BASIC DISAGREEMENT ON AMERICAN POLICY AS FAR AS ASSURING THE FUTURE OF ISRAEL IS CONCERNED.

ON ONE MAJOR ISSUE, MR. CARTER DIRECTLY SUPPORTS THE KISSINGER/FORD POSITION. IT IS IN RELATION TO AFRICA, WHERE HE, TOO, STRONGLY FAVORS MAJORITY RULE AND THE LEGITIMATE USE OF ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL PRESSURE TO THIS END.

MR. CARTER SEEKS A MORAL BASIS FOR AMERICA'S FOREIGN POLICY WHICH, HE SAYS, SHOULD NOT REST MERELY ON A BALANCE OF POWER

DOCTRINE. MR. KISSINGER, IN HIS LATEST SPEECH, SAYS AN INTERNATIONAL STRUCTURE HELD TOGETHER ONLY BY A BALANCE OF FORCES WILL SOONER OR LATER COLLAPSE IN CASTASTROPHE. FOR AMERICA, HE ADDS, COOPERATION AMONG THE FREE NATIONS IS A MORAL, AND NOT MERELY A PRACTICAL NECESSITY.

SO DESPITE DIFFERENCES IN STYLE AND EMPHASIS, ENOUGH COMMON GROUND EXISTS TO SPEAK OF A REAL CONTINUITY IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME OF A CONTEST BETWEEN MR. CARTER AND MR. FORD.